

~~TOP SECRET~~ No Objection to Declassification in Full 2011/09/30 : LOC-HAK-505-2-6-2 EYES ONLY
VIA BUNKER CHANNEL

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
TO: LORD FOR DR. KISSINGER
CITE: WHS2251

TOHAK 52

DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

OCTOBER 19, 1972

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TO: HENRY A. KISSINGER
FROM: AL HAIG

ATTACHED IS A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM DEFENSE ON YOUR REQUEST CONCERNING ADDITIONAL AIR ASSETS.

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

MORI PER
C05148164

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR SOUTH VIETNAM

IN RESPONSE TO YOUR VERBAL REQUEST TODAY FOR ADDITIONAL MILITARY AIRCRAFT FOR SOUTH VIETNAM, THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CAN BE ADDED TO TAB A-2 OF MY MEMORANDUM DATED 15 OCTOBER 1972:

TYPE	NUMBER
&C-130	32
A-37B	42
F-5A	47

WE ARE PLANNING TO DELIVER TO SOUTH VIETNAM APPROVED EQUIPMENT AND AIRCRAFT WITHIN 14 DAYS FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF AN ORDER TO COMMENCE DELIVERY. IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF YOU COULD NEGOTIATE A PERIOD OF TIME GREATER THAN 14 DAYS FOR THE COMPLETION OF DELIVERY. IT WOULD ALSO BE MOST HELPFUL IF THE SHIPS LISTED IN TAB D OF MY 15 OCTOBER MEMORANDUM (SHIPS ENROUTE TO SOUTH VIETNAM BETWEEN OCTOBER 18 AND 1 NOV 1972) WERE ALLOWED TO COMPLETE THEIR VOYAGE TO SOUTH VIETNAM AND IF WE WERE PERMITTED TO ADD SHIPS TO THIS LIST. FINALLY, THE SOONER A CEASEFIRE IS IMPLEMENTED THE EASIER IT WILL BE FOR US TO CONDUCT THIS GIGANTIC AIRLIFT OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT. DURING A CEASEFIRE LOGISTIC AIRCRAFT NOW COMMITTED TO TRANSPORTING US REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR RVNAF REQUIREMENTS.

AS YOU KNOW, ANY COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE F-5A'S WILL REQUIRE THE IMMEDIATE ACQUIESCENCE OF TAIWAN, KOREA, IRAN OR A COMBINATION OF ALL THREE. THE STATE DEPARTMENT MUST BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE THE RELEASE OF THESE AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATELY.

THE TOTAL COST OF THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE INCLUDED IN THIS MEMO AND MY MEMO OF 15 OCTOBER IS ABOUT \$1B. WE WILL NEED STRONG PRESIDENTIAL SUPPORT TO GET OUR MASF CEILING INCREASED AND TO GET CONGRESS TO APPROVE FUNDS NECESSARY TO REPLACE EQUIPMENT TURNED OVER TO SOUTH VIETNAM.

DOS & OSD review (s) completed

MELVIN R. LAIRD

&THIS REPLACES C-119G, C-74, C-123K ACFT.